

Serial No.: 10/501,409
Docket No.: 28951.5330

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis disk for analyzing a liquid specimen comprising:

~~a channel therein extending from an injection port toward an outer periphery thereof the analysis disk rotatable about an axis thereof to cause a liquid specimen injected into the channel from the injection port to flow through an analysis area located midway in the channel with respect to a radially outer end portion of the channel, and a water absorbing member located in the outer end portion of the channel.~~

a disk-shaped upper substrate having a first hole through a center thereof, the upper substrate comprising:

a plurality of injection ports cut through the upper substrate and located around the first hole in circumferentially spaced relation to each other;

a plurality of water absorbing members recessed into a rear surface of the upper substrate and in a radially outer peripheral portion of the disk in circumferentially spaced relation, each of the water absorbing members comprising a porous material and containing a blood coagulating agent for coagulating a liquid specimen;

a plurality of channels recessed into a rear surface of the upper substrate, each of the channels connecting an injection port to a water absorbing member, and extending radially straight from the injection port to the water absorbing member, each of the plurality of channels comprising:

a plurality of analysis areas, each located midway in a channel and coated with a reagent for reaction with a constituent of a liquid specimen to be analyzed; and
a lower substrate bonded with a second hole at a center thereof, the lower substrate bonded to the upper substrate, and comprising:
a reflective film on a surface of the lower substrate,
wherein the analysis disk is rotatable about an axis thereof to pass a liquid specimen injected into a channel from an injection port to an analysis area and a water absorbing member.

2. – 4. (Canceled).

5. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 4, wherein the coagulating agent is a highly water absorbable polymer.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~an outer end portion of the channel provided with the water absorbing member has a greater width than a portion of the channel radially inward of the outer end portion.

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8. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein a portion of the channel radially inward of ~~the~~an outer end portion provided with the water absorbing member is bottlenecked.

9. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~the channel includes a plurality of channels which~~ are connected to each other at ~~the~~an outer end portions thereof ~~each provided with the water absorbing member~~.

10. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein a portion of the channel which is radially inward of ~~the~~an outer end portion provided with the water absorbing member is coated with a hydrophobic material.

11. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 1, wherein a valve device is provided between the analysis area and ~~the~~an outer end portion provided with the water absorbing member.

12. (Original) A specimen analysis disk as set forth in claim 11, wherein the valve device is opened and closed by a centrifugal force.

13. (Currently Amended) A specimen analysis device, which employs a specimen analysis disk comprising a channel therein extending from an injection port toward an outer

periphery thereof, an analysis area located midway in the channel and a water absorbing member located in a radially outer end portion thereof, the device comprising rotation means which rotates the specimen analysis disk about an axis of the disk with a liquid specimen injected in the channel from the injection port, and optical detection means which scans the analysis area to optically detect a constituent of the liquid specimen guided through the channel toward the outer periphery of the disk by the rotation,

wherein the channel extends and ends in a radially straight direction from an injection port to a water absorbing member, and a water absorbing member contains a blood coagulating agent for coagulating a liquid specimen.

14. – 15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) The specimen analysis disk according to claim ~~15~~ 1, wherein the plurality of channels are placed equidistantly from each other.

17. (Previously Presented) The specimen analysis disk according to claim 1, wherein the outer end portion of the channel is adjacent to a terminal end of the channel, and the terminal end of the channel is positioned opposite to the injection port.

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18. (Currently Amended) The specimen analysis disk according to claim 1, wherein ~~the flow of the liquid specimen terminates at the water absorbing member~~ at a terminal end of the channel is for absorbing a liquid specimen.

19. (Canceled).